

R E M A R K S

Applicant has carefully considered the above identified Office Action, and in response thereto is addressing each issue raised by the examiner in the remarks hereinbelow. In this regard, applicant is canceling without prejudice claims 5, 6, 14, 15, 19 and 20; and amending claims 1 - 4, 7 - 13 and 16 - 18.

Claim Rejections 35 USC 112

Applicant has converted claims 1 - 4, 7 - 13 and 16 - 18 from method claims to apparatus claims. Applicant has canceled without prejudice claims 6, 15 and 20, therefore the "typing error" comment is moot.

Claim Rejection 35 USC 103(a)

Applicant has amended claim 1 by adding 5 - 6 thereto, claim 10 by adding claims 14 - 15 thereto and claim 16 by adding claims 19 - 20 thereto according to the allowable subject matter section. All claims dependent upon a newly allowable base claim are also made allowable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant agrees with examiner that claims 6, 15 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the 35 USC 112 rejections and set form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

C O N C L U S I O N

It is respectfully submitted that applicant has responded in a fully satisfactory manner to all matters at issue in this application, and this application is now in condition for allowance. In this regard, applicant has made every effort to comply with the requirements set forth in this Office Action as well as statutory requirements. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment, allow the claims, and pass this application on to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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